PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: JAMES J. PAGLIUCA et al. Confirmation No.: 8425

Serial No.: 10/665,754 Examiner: VICTOR X. NGUYEN

Filed: SEPTEMBER 19, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3734

Docket No.: 1291.1139101 Customer No.: 33469

Title: SURGICAL TOOL FOR USE IN EXPANDING A CANNULAE

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

MAIL STOP: AF

Commissioner for Patents

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CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 18th day of December 2008.

Kathleen L. Boekley

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of the Examiner mailed October 29, 2008, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on January 29, 2009.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

The Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.